

Tom Horne
Superintendent

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ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

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Wednesday, June 30, 2004

**STATEMENT BY ARIZONA SUPERINTENDENT TOM HORNE REGARDING STATE
EMPLOYEE PLACED ON LEAVE**

PHOENIX (Wednesday, June 30, 2004) -- "When I came into office in January 2003, I instituted some new fiscal management processes for the Department. In the course of developing the fiscal year 2005 budget, our personnel discovered embezzlement by an individual that had gone on for three years before I took office.

I immediately contacted the State Attorney General's office and the Auditor General's office. I asked the Attorney General's office to immediately begin a criminal investigation.

I will do my best to keep the public notified of the progress of the criminal investigation."

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